Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Amend claims 1-5, as follows.

Listing of Claims:

1. (**Amended**) A method for performing multi-counter evaluation of a text, said method comprising computer-implemented steps of:

applying to the text a finite-state machine augmented with state value lists, where each state value list indicates which counter of the multi-counter ~~scores receive~~ receives which ~~values~~ value for the ~~state, and~~ state;

~~state scores are accumulated~~ accumulating the values of the states separately for each counter of the multi-counter, thereby producing a list of counter ~~scores.~~ scores; and

returning the counter scores.

2. (**Amended**) A method for performing multi-counter evaluation of a text, said method comprising computer-implemented steps of:

applying to the text a finite-state machine augmented with state value lists, where each state value list indicates which patterns in which counters of the multi-counter are found when the state is entered ~~and~~ ;

producing a list of patterns ~~is produced~~ for each counter; and

returning the lists of found patterns.

3. (**Amended**) A method for constructing a multi-counter finite-state machine augmented with state value lists, said method comprising ~~the~~ computer-implemented steps of:

providing by computer an empty augmented finite-state machine that has only a start state, with no transitions and no value list; and

accumulating ~~each~~ by computer a finite-state machine of each counter of the multi-counter that corresponds to one or more pattern-amount pairs into the augmented finite-state machine to form a merged machine, including

converting state values of states of the finite-state machines of the counters of the multi-counter into state-value lists of states of the merged machine.

4. (**Amended**) The method of claim 3, wherein the step of accumulating a finite-state machine of each counter of the multi-counter that corresponds to one or more pattern-amount pairs into the augmented finite-state machine to form a merged machine ~~further~~ comprises ~~the~~ computer-implemented steps of:

forming states for the merged machine that correspond to pairs of states that can be reached by starting the finite-state machine of a counter of the multi-counter and the augmented finite-state machine in ~~the~~ their start states and applying the ~~machines~~ finite-state machine of the counter and the augmented finite-state machine to a text in unison, with ~~each~~ the finite-state machine of the counter and the augmented finite-state machine advancing through each text character simultaneously;

forming states for the merged machine that correspond to one of the finite-state machine of the counter and the augmented finite-state machine having halted while ~~the other~~ another of the finite-state machine of the counter and the augmented finite-state machine continues to advance through the text;

for each merged machine state, if there is a corresponding state of the augmented finite-state machine ~~state~~ of the counter and it has a value list, then copying the value list to form the value list for the ~~new~~ merged machine state;

for each merged machine state, if there is a corresponding state of the finite-state machine of the counter ~~state~~, it has ~~value~~ a value, and the merged machine state has no value list, then forming a new empty value list for the merged machine state;

for each merged machine state, if there is ~~a~~ the corresponding state of the finite-state machine of the counter ~~state~~ and it has ~~value~~ a value, then adding a reference to the counter corresponding to the finite-state machine and the ~~value~~ value, to the value list for the merged machine state;

for each merged machine state with a corresponding first state of the augmented finite-state machine ~~state~~ and a corresponding second state of the finite-state machine ~~state~~ of the counter, for each character in transitions from both the first and the second states, forming a transition ~~for~~ from the merged machine state, with destination of the transition being a state of the merged machine ~~state~~ corresponding to the states of the augmented finite-state machine and the finite-state machine of the counter that are the destinations of the transitions from the first and the second states;

for each merged machine state with a corresponding third state of the augmented finite-state machine ~~state~~ and a corresponding fourth state of the finite-state machine ~~state,~~ of the counter, for each character in a transition from only one of the third and the fourth ~~corresponding~~ states, forming a transition ~~for~~ from the merged machine state, with destination of the transition being a state of the merged machine ~~state~~ corresponding to the state of the augmented finite-state machine or the finite-state machine of the counter that is the destination of the transition from the third or the fourth state and the machine without the transition from the third or the fourth state having halted; and

for each merged machine state with a corresponding fifth state of the augmented finite-state machine ~~state~~ or a corresponding sixth state of

the finite-state machine ~~state~~ of the counter but not both, for each character in a transition from the fifth or the sixth ~~corresponding~~ state, forming a transition ~~for~~ from the merged machine state, with destination of the transition being a state of the merged machine ~~state~~ corresponding to the state of the augmented finite-state machine or the finite-state machine of the counter that is the destination of the transition from the fifth or the sixth state and the machine without the transition from the fifth or the sixth state having halted.

5. (**Amended**) A method for adding a pattern that consists of a single sequence of characters and a corresponding pattern ~~value~~ value, from a counter to an augmented finite-state machine, said method comprising ~~the~~ computer-implemented steps of:

providing ~~a pattern~~ the pattern;

providing ~~a corresponding~~ the corresponding pattern value;

providing ~~an~~ the augmented finite-state machine having a plurality of machine states;

advancing through the machine states ~~as~~ by applying the machine to the sequence of characters as a text;

if the machine would halt when applied to the sequence of characters as a text, then adding states and transitions to the machine to prevent halting; and

for ~~the~~ a final state that would be reached by the machine supplemented with the added states and transitions, forming a state value list if the final state lacks ~~one~~ a state value list, and adding to the state value list a reference to the counter and the pattern value.